

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 456 (Delegate Glassman)
 Ways and Means

Election Law - Reporting of Slate Expenditures

This bill requires a campaign finance entity representing a slate of candidates to include for each expenditure listed on the campaign finance report the name of the slate member on whose behalf the expenditure was made or for whose benefit the expenditure was made.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: A one-time general fund expenditure of \$25,000 in FY 2006 primarily for updating State Board of Elections filer software and the campaign finance tracking system.

(in dollars)	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	25,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$25,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: All campaign finance entities, except for political clubs, must file a campaign finance report from the date of organization until termination. Reports must include information required by the State Board of Elections with respect to all

contributions received, and all expenditures made by or on behalf of the campaign finance entity during the designated reporting period.

There are four financial disclosure reports that must be filed in an election year according to the following schedule:

- the fourth Tuesday preceding a primary election;
- the second Friday preceding a primary election;
- the second Friday preceding a general election; and
- the third Tuesday following a general election.

An annual report is required of all political committees during a nonelection year, and an additional report is required of noncontinuing committees after a general election if a cash balance or outstanding obligation remains in a campaign account. There is no requirement for individual members of a slate to report expenditures separately.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Identical bills, HB 654 of 2003 and HB 169 of 2004, were each unfavorably reported from the Ways and Means Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 17, 2005
ncs/jr

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